

Claims

- [c1] 1. A method for making a molded container from a plastic resin stored at ambient conditions, comprising the steps of: A) reducing the absorbed oxygen in the plastic resin by contacting the resin with an oxygen-depleted atmosphere; B) heating the plastic resin to a temperature at which the plastic resin can be extruded; C) extruding a quantity of the plastic resin into a mold; D) blowing the resin against the mold; E) pressuring and flushing the molded resin with an inert gas; F) depressuring the molded resin; and G) releasing a molded container from the mold.
- [c2] A method for making a molded container as recited in claim 1, wherein the contacting step (A) occurs at a temperature between about 120 ° C and about 170 ° C.
- [c3] A method for making a molded container as recited in claim 1, wherein the contacting step (A) occurs in an atmosphere substantially devoid of oxygen.
- [c4] A method for making a molded container as recited in claim 1, wherein the mold is maintained at a temperature between about 50 ° F and about 150 ° F, and the pressuring/flushing gas is at a temperature below about 0 ° F.
- [c5] A method for making a molded container as recited in claim 1, wherein the blowing step (D) is performed using the inert gas at or near ambient temperature.
- [c6] A molded container made using the method of claim 1, claim 2, claim 3, claim 4, claim 5, or claim 6.
- [c7] A method for making a molded container from a plastic resin stored at ambient conditions, comprising the steps of: A) drying the plastic resin in an oxygen-depleted atmosphere; B) heating the dried plastic resin to a temperature at which the plastic resin can be extruded; C) extruding a quantity of the plastic resin into a mold; D) blowing the resin against the mold; E) pressuring and flushing the molded resin with an inert gas; F) depressuring the molded resin; and G) releasing a molded container from the mold.